

**ACTUAL EXPENDITURES AND PERFORMANCE RESULTS ACHIEVED BY THE
SOUTHERN VIRGINIA INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN TASK FORCE**

REPORT TO THE

**Governor
Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security
Senate Finance Committee
House Appropriations Committee
Director of Department of Planning and Budget**



September 9, 2022

Sheriff Michael W. Miller
Bedford County Sheriff's Office

Captain Stephen Anders
SOVA-ICAC Commander



SOUTHERN VIRGINIA

INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN TASK FORCE



September 9, 2022

TO: The Honorable Glenn Youngkin
Governor of Virginia

The Honorable Robert Mosier
Secretary of Public Safety and Homeland Security

The Honorable Janet D. Howell
Chair of the Senate Finance Committee

The Honorable Barry D. Knight
Chair of the House Appropriations Committee

Mr. Michael Maul
Director of the Department of Planning and Budget

Pursuant to Appropriation Act – Item 408 H.2. (*Special Session 1, 2022*), I am respectfully submitting herewith a report on the *Actual Expenditures and Performance Results Achieved by the Southern Virginia Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force* for the Report period of July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. Maul".

Sheriff
Bedford County, Virginia

MWM/RH

Enclosure

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**REPORT ON THE ACTUAL EXPENDITURES AND PERFORMANCE
RESULTS ACHIEVED BY THE SOUTHERN VIRGINIA INTERNET
CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN TASK FORCE DURING THE
2021-2022 YEAR**

OVERVIEW OF THE TASK FORCE

The Southern Virginia Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, otherwise known as SOVA-ICAC, was founded in 1998 with funding from Department of Justice through the Office of Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention. Originally the task force name was Operation Blue Ridge Thunder. The task force designation is through the Bedford County Sheriff’s Office. Initial investigative responsibilities were investigating child sexual exploitation crimes perpetrated against children through the use of the Internet, but was later changed to include most all child sexual exploitation crimes perpetrated against children to include, but not limited to, child trafficking and child prostitution.

The SOVA-ICAC is comprised of 166 affiliate agencies from all areas of Law Enforcement, the private sector and Non-Government Organizations. Law Enforcement support comes from Federal, State, County City/Local, Tribal and Military agencies. An (*) denotes an agency that joined the Task Force this past year.

Affiliate Agency Name	Agency Type
Accomack County Sheriff’s Office	County
Albemarle County Police Department	County
Albemarle County Sheriff’s Office	County
Alleghany County Sheriff’s Office	County
Amelia County Sheriff’s Office	County
Amherst County Sheriff’s Office	County
Amherst Police Department	City/Local
Appalachia Police Department	City/Local
Appomattox County Sheriff’s Office	County
Augusta County Sheriff’s Office	County
Bedford County Sheriff’s Office	County
Bedford County Department of Social Services	County
Bedford Police Department	County
Big Stone Gap Police Department	City/Local
Blacksburg Police Department	City/Local
Bluefield Police Department	City/Local
Botetourt County Sheriff’s Office	County
Bristol Police Department	City/Local

Brunswick County Sheriff's Office	City/Local
Buchanan County Sheriff's Office	County
Buckingham County Sheriff's Office	County
Buena Vista Police Department	City/Local
Campbell County Sheriff's Office	County
Caroline County Sheriff's Office	County
Carroll County Sheriff's Office	County
Centra Health (Forensic Nurses for Child Sex Abuse Exams)	NGO
Central Virginia Community College Police Department	State
Central Virginia Criminal Justice Academy	State
Charles City County Sheriff's Office*	County
Charlottesville Police Department	City/Local
Chesapeake Police Department	City/Local
Chesterfield County Police Department	County
Children's Advocacy Center of Bristol/Washington County	NGO
Children's Trust – Child Advocacy Center	NGO
Christiansburg Police Department	City/Local
CID (ARMY) : Criminal Investigative Command, HQ VA	Federal
Clifton Forge Police Department*	City/Local
Coeburn Police Department	City/Local
Colonial Beach Police Department	City/Local
Colonial Heights Police Department	City/Local
Covington Police Department	City/Local
Craig County Sheriff's Office	County
Crewe Police Department	City/Local
Cumberland County Sheriff's Office	County
Danville Police Department	City/Local
Dickenson County Sheriff's Office	County
Dinwiddie County Sheriff's Office	County
Emporia Police Department	City/Local
Farmville Police Department	City/Local
Floyd County Sheriff's Office	County
Fluvanna County Sheriff's Office	County
Franklin County Sheriff's Office	County
Giles County Sheriff's Office	County
Gloucester County Sheriff's Office	County
Goochland County Sheriff's Office	County
Grayson County Sheriff's Office	County

Greater Richmond SCAN	NGO
Greene County Sheriff's Office	County
Greensville County Sheriff's Office	County
Halifax County Sheriff's Office	County
Hampton Police Department	City/Local
Hanover County Sheriff's Office	County
Henrico County Police Division	County
Henry County Sheriff's Office	County
Hillsville Police Department	City/Local
Hopewell Police Department	City/Local
Isle of Wight County Sheriff's Office	County
James City County Police Department	County
King and Queen County Sheriff's Office	County
King George County Sheriff's Office	County
Lancaster County Sheriff's Office	County
Lebanon Police Department	City/Local
Liberty University Police Department	Private
Louisa County Sheriff's Office	County
Lynchburg City Sheriff's Office	City/Local
Lynchburg Police Department	City/Local
Martinsville Police Department	City/Local
Mathews County Sheriff's Office	County
Middlesex County Sheriff's Office	County
Montgomery County Sheriff's Office	County
NCIS: US Naval Criminal Investigative Service - Norfolk	Federal
Nelson County Sheriff's Office	County
New Kent Sheriff's Office	County
Norfolk Police Department	City/Local
Northampton County Sheriff's Office	County
Northumberland County Sheriff's Offices Office	County
Norton Police Department	City/Local
Patrick County Sheriff's Office	County
Petersburg Police Department	City/Local
Pittsylvania County Sheriff's Office	County
Poquoson Police Department	City/Local
Pound Police Department	City/Local
Powhatan Sheriff's Office	City/Local
Prince Edward County Sheriff's Office	County

Prince George County Police Department	County
Pulaski County Sheriff's Office	County
Pulaski Police Department	City/Local
Radford Police Department	City/Local
Radford University Police Department	Private
Rich Creek Police Department	City/Local
Richmond City Police Department	City/Local
Richmond County Sheriff's Office	County
Roanoke City Police Department	City/Local
Roanoke County Police Department	County
Rockbridge County Sheriff's Office	County
Rocky Mount Police Department	City/Local
Russell County Sheriff's Office	County
Saltville Police Department	City/Local
Scott County Sheriff's Office	County
Smyth County Sheriff's Office	County
Southampton County Sheriff's Office	County
South Hill Police Department	City/Local
Southern Virginia Child Advocacy Center	NGO
St. Paul Police Department	City/Local
Staunton Police Department	City/Local
Suffolk Police Department	City/Local
Tazewell County Sheriff's Office	County
Tazewell Police Department	City/Local
U.S. Department of the Air Force (USAF OSI)	Federal
U. S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement	Federal
United States Attorney's Office - Eastern District	Federal
University of Virginia Police Department	State/Private
Vinton Police Department	City/Local
Virginia Attorney General	State
Virginia Beach Police Department	City/Local
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Albemarle County*	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Amelia County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Augusta County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Bedford County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Botetourt County*	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Campbell County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Chesapeake City	City/Local

VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Danville City	City/Local
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Dinwiddie County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Franklin County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Giles County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Gloucester County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Goochland County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Grayson County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Halifax County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Hanover County*	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Henry County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Louisa County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Lynchburg City	City/Local
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Middlesex County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Montgomery County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Norfolk City	City/Local
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Northumberland County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Tazewell County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Virginia Beach	City/Local
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Waynesboro City*	City/Local
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Westmoreland County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Williamsburg-James City County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Wise County	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : Wythe County*	County
VA Commonwealth's Attorney : York-Poquoson	County
VA Department of Probation and Parole : District 20 Bedford	State
VA Department of Probation and Parole : District 23 Virginia Beach	State
Washington County Sheriff's Office	County
Waynesboro Police Department	City/Local
Westmoreland County Sheriff's Office	County
Williamsburg Police Department	City/Local
Wise County Sheriff's Office	County
Wise Police Department	City/Local
Wythe County Police Department	County
York County Police Department	County

BUDGETARY SOVA-ICAC

CATEGORY	BUDGET	EXPENDITURES	BALANCE
Personnel	\$1,297,862.00	\$811,224.00	\$486,638.00
Equipment	\$137,138.00	\$235,611.46	(\$98,473.46)
Supplies	\$15,000.00	\$9,541.65	\$5,458.35
Total	\$1,450,000.00	\$1,056,377.11	\$393,622.89

The start of the fiscal year in July 2021 is when we became aware that the fee fund was not generating enough fees to cover the full amount allocated to the SOVA-ICAC Task Force, as provided for in the annual budget, and which had been the figures we were budgeting our operations and salary needs from. This shortfall was magnified due to the statewide pandemic lockdowns, which resulted in closed courts; reduced pro-active policing and arrests due to attempts mitigate officer exposure to Covid; and reduced fees due to reduced arrests from changes the General Assembly made removing various traffic offenses and decriminalizing certain acts, which also reduced arrests being made with resulting reduction in fees collected from convictions and guilty pleas. The General Assembly, as part of the budget passed in 2022, provided supplementary funding from the general fund for the fiscal year ending June 2022, to help cover the shortage in funding. Other savings in this area were realized by not filling open positions, due to salary costs. Overages in Equipment expenditures were offset by vacancy savings in the Personnel category.

PERSONNEL

Funding in the Personnel category was allocated to pay salaries and benefits of core SOVA-ICAC personnel. Core SOVA-ICAC personnel operate out of the SOVA-ICAC office in Forest, Virginia, located within the confines of Bedford County, Virginia. ICAC personnel are employed by the Bedford County Sheriff’s Office, or affiliates who have assigned investigators to work full-time out of the SOVA-ICAC main office. The staff is comprised of a Task Force Commander, a Lieutenant, Sergeants, Analysts, a Cyber Tip Manager, Investigators, and a LAN Manager. The investigative team is composed of two units, criminal investigations and forensic examiners. In the investigations unit, there is currently one sergeant, and five investigators, one being a K9 handler. We have one open investigator position reserved for affiliate agencies to assign an investigator to the main SOVA ICAC HQ office (with funding for this position allocated out of affiliate funding). In the forensic examiner unit, there is currently one sergeant, and four forensic investigators. To date, we still have been unable to hire a LAN Manager. Also, our Cybertip Manager and Analyst positions remain unfilled, as does one criminal investigator position, and the Lieutenant and Sergeant positions.

EQUIPMENT

Funding in the equipment category is used to purchase equipment used solely by ICAC personnel to investigate child sexual exploitation cases and prevent and or educate on child sexual exploitation to include the following:

- Double-sided Card Printer & Accessories
- Miscellaneous software
- Miscellaneous cables
- Computer Hardware for Forensics Lab
- Computer Software for Forensics Lab
- Sumuri Recon Renewal
- Server maintenance
- Network Migration Equipment and Services
- Mobile Forensic/Command Vehicle expenses
- Oxygen Forensics Renewal

SUPPLIES and OTHER EXPENSES

Monthly recurring costs such as electric service, gas service, cellular phone contracts, copier and postage costs, alarm and building services and Internet communications services were expended from the Supplies and Other Expenses category. Other expenses include the following:

- Postage
- Office Supplies
- Ink and Toner Cartridges
- Internet Service
- Wireless Service
- Electrical Service
- Land line Service
- Alarm System
- Elevator service (phone, repairs, etc.)
- K9 Expenses

BUDGETARY SOVA-ICAC AFFILIATES

	BUDGET	EXPENDITURES	BALANCE
Total	\$604,210.00	\$285,293.72	\$318,916.28

Funding for affiliates was used for the purpose of Personnel (\$125,937.89), Travel/Training (\$95,881.40) and Equipment (\$63,474.43) expenditures.

PERSONNEL

Funds were allocated to reimburse for time worked by SOVA-ICAC affiliates. The 166 affiliated agencies with SOVA-ICAC employ these staff members, and funds are used to reimburse them for overtime work performed for ICAC investigations. Funding for one affiliate position for full-time assignment to the SOVA-ICAC main task force office comes out of this funding as well. This position is currently filled by an investigator from the Campbell County Sheriff's Office. In addition, funding for the salary of financial analyst who supports and manages all funding for the entire task force is also supported with affiliate funding.

TRAVEL/TRAINING

Funding in the travel category is used to train and educate the members of our 166 affiliates, and equip them to continue their investigations to locate those individuals who prey upon and exploit our children and secure the evidence needed to bring them to trial. In person trainings began to be held again, so we were able to start sending affiliates to in person training. Training consisted of the following:

- Digital Shield Certification Course
- Social Media Training
- 2022 ICAC Conference
- CPS Instructor Training
- Cellebrite Training
- Axiom/GrayKey Training
- Magnet Summit
- Undercover Chat
- Magnet Forensic Training Pass
- BitTorrent
- OpenText EnCase Certification Renewal

EQUIPMENT

Funding in the equipment category is used to purchase equipment used by the SOVA-ICAC affiliates to investigate child sexual exploitation cases, and to prevent and/or educate on child sexual exploitation. Funds were expended to purchase needed investigative equipment for affiliate investigators to include the following:

- DSX System Battery Replacement
- UFED Software Renewals
- Griffeye Pro
- Sumuri Recon
- Magnet Forensic Training Pass
- Camtasia Software
- Forensic Imager
- Synology 4 Bay NAS Diskless & 4TB Hard Drives
- XRY Logical & Physical License Renewal
- Computers & Accessories

**Southern Virginia Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force SOVA ICAC
Enforcement Activities**

July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022

Documented Complaints

Traveler	Proactive	107
	Reactive	13
Enticement	Proactive	61
	Reactive	180
Obscenity Directed to Minors	Proactive	24
	Reactive	173
Child Prostitution	Proactive	35
	Reactive	26
Child Pornography Manufacture	Proactive	18
	Reactive	152
Distribution	Proactive	113
	Reactive	831
Possession	Proactive	62
	Reactive	849

Case Information

Case Dispositions	Unfounded	798
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	Suspended	131
	Plea	176
	Trial	51
Submitted Federal Prosecution		54
Accepted Federal Prosecution		45

Number of Investigations 2,642

Arrests 244

Goals

Cyber Tips Received		6,171
CVIP Submissions		45
Affiliated Agencies Added		7
Child Victims Identified		118
	CVIP Cases	45

Court Actions

Subpoenas or Court Orders		
	Federal	339
	State/Local	1,690

Technical Assists

Technical Support		1,541
Forensics Exams		3,271
Total Digital Medial (TB)		720.18TB

Training

Training Sessions Provided		38
Law Enforcement Trained		283
Prosecutors Trained		1
Other Professions Trained		18
Number Sent to ICAC Training		37
Number Sent to Other Training		913

Community Outreach

Presentations	124
Number of Attendees	5,675
Public Events	26
Number of Attendees	6,820
Public Awareness	62

A few cases of interest during this reporting period include the following:

New Kent, VA:

In February 2022, Jose Joan Martinez Marmolejo was arrested for multiple offenses involving the sexual exploitation of an 11 year old female. The victim had been reported missing by her parents earlier that day, and social media posts indicated she may be in the company of an unidentified adult male. Using cell phone pings, along with a tracking K9 and a scent article of the victim, they located her in a motel room. Marmolejo admitted to meeting the victim on Instagram and had communicated online for about a month. He had paid her for sexually explicit images and videos of herself. He then admitted to traveling from North Carolina to New Kent to meet the victim, and subsequently admitted that they had had sex multiple times that day, and had also filmed the sexual activity between them, and then forwarded the videos to the victim's phone.

Virginia Beach, VA

In March 2022, detectives with the VA Beach Police Department arrested Dylan Seader as part of an online undercover investigation. Seader drove to Virginia Beach to meet what he believed was a minor, for sex. This case referred and adopted for federal prosecution for solicitation and traveling to meet a minor for sex, and for production of child pornography. During forensic exam of seized devices, they located child pornography on his phone, including child pornography involving bestiality. He also possessed videos of himself raping his then 18 month old niece.

Powhatan and Cumberland Counties, VA:

In March 2022, Joseph Richard Nowak III, was arrested as part of a joint investigation by the Powhatan and Cumberland County Sheriff's Offices. As a result of the investigation, Nowak was charged with contributing to the delinquency of a minor in Powhatan, and with possession of child pornography in Cumberland County. During the investigation, his phone was seized in Cumberland County, where the child pornography was later found. Nowak was an elementary school teacher in Cumberland County.

Richmond, VA:

In May 2022, Richmond Police Department arrested Matiko Pierce on charges of aggravated sexual battery and producing child pornography. Charges were related to his work as a teacher at a local child care center.

Newport News, VA:

In June, 2022, The FBI arrested Michael Covey of Newport News on charges related to 18 USC 2251(a) in relation to sexual exploitation of children. Covey was a police officer with Newport News PD at the time of his arrest.

This case started in Ohio, with the arrest of a suspect there. During review by the FBI, that suspect had files that had geolocation data putting the creation of those files in Newport News, VA. The Southern Virginia ICAC received a request from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children for assistance in trying to locate and identify the victim in the files. The case was then forwarded to the Newport News Police Department and the FBI who handle cases in that area. The FBI was able to identify both the victim and a suspect, who was ultimately arrested. Since then, the FBI has identified a second child that was victimized by Covey. Trial is scheduled for October 2022.

New Kent, VA:

In June 2022, Cristopher Paul Perry was arrested by the New Kent County Sheriff's Office, on charges related to possessing child pornography. This investigation was initiated by a Cybertip from an online cloud storage company, that reported a user had been storing known or suspected child pornography through their service. During the investigation, the New Kent County Sheriff's Office was made aware of an additional investigation being conducted by VA State Police out of Harrisonburg, VA, investigating an online solicitation investigation. It was determined through additional evidence that Perry was also the suspect I that investigation. Additional charges for those offenses are pending in Harrisonburg.

Patrick County, VA:

In April 2022, Patrick County Sheriff's Office investigators arrested Erich Alwine as part of a child pornography investigation that began as a Cybertip. It was discovered that Alwine was wanted out of North Carolina for the rape of a 14 year old victim.

Isle of Wight, VA:

In November 2021, investigators with the Isle of Wight Sheriff's Office arrested Hunter Reseigne, 22, of Norfolk, for distribution of child pornography. During an undercover investigation, an investigator received child pornography from a subject later identified as Reseigne.

Investigators determined Reseigne was an active-duty member of the US Navy. They coordinated with the Naval Criminal Investigative Service in making the arrest.

Reseigne was held without bond.

Hanover County, VA:

On December 13, 2021, Hanover County Sheriff's Office Investigators executed a search warrant, and subsequently arrested Derek lee Short, 47, of Mechanicsville, for charges related to possession of child pornography. Short is currently a registered sex offender, convicted in 2019 of production of child pornography. The 2019 case was the result of a Cybertip from the National Center for Missing and exploited Children.

Hanover County, VA:

In October 2021, Hanover Sheriff's Office Investigators arrested Robert Whittemore of Mechanicsville, VA, for possession of child pornography, and indecent liberties with a minor female, that was personally known to him. At the time of his arrest, Whittemore was a high level IT Specialist with the Virginia Department of Corrections.

Suffolk, VA:

In December 2021, Jordan Willoughby, 29, was arrested for production of child pornography and online enticement of a minor. Willoughby had been using platforms such as Kik and Snapchat to communicate with underage females, while posing as a 15-year-old boy. He used images of a local 19-year-old male to send to the underage females he was communicating with online. One reported conversation through Snapchat, involved an alleged 13-year-old female that Willoughby paid via CashApp, for images of herself.

Charlottesville, VA / Albemarle County, VA:

In July 2021, Dr. David Lapidés, 37, of Charlottesville was arrested on charges related to possession of child pornography. Lapidés was a neurologist with the University of Virginia. This was a Cybertip case from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, and was worked by Albemarle County Police Department, who then assisted the Charlottesville Police Department in completing the investigation. Lapidés pled guilty to two counts of possession of child pornography, and will be sentenced in May, 2022.